

# **AS OF WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, 2022, FACE-MASKS ARE NO LONGER REQUIRED TO BE WORN IN SCHOOLS IN NEW YORK STATE.**

**CHANGE CAN BE HARD AND STRESSFUL, ESPECIALLY FOR KIDS. BELOW ARE SOME ANSWERS TO COMMON QUESTIONS STUDENTS MAY ASK.**

## **WHY DID THE GUIDANCE CHANGE?**

**AS THE SCIENCE AROUND COVID-19 EVOLVES, SO DO RECOMMENDATIONS. DECISIONS ARE BASED ON THE BEST, MOST RECENT SCIENCE. THE CDC'S NEW COVID-19 COMMUNITY LEVEL FRAMEWORK TAKES INTO ACCOUNT DIFFERENT COMMUNITY INDICATORS OF COVID-19.**



## **WHEN SHOULD I WEAR A MASK?**

- THE CDC NOW RECOMMENDS PEOPLE WEAR FACE-MASKS WHEN IN AN AREA WITH A HIGH COMMUNITY COVID-19 LEVEL.**
- IN AREAS WITH A MEDIUM COMMUNITY COVID-19 LEVEL, THOSE WHO ARE IMMUNOCOMPROMISED OR AT RISK FOR SEVERE DISEASE SHOULD TALK TO THEIR HEALTHCARE PROVIDER ABOUT MASKING.**
- IN AREAS WITH A LOW COVID-19 COMMUNITY LEVEL, PEOPLE MAY WEAR A MASK BASED ON THEIR PERSONAL PREFERENCE.**

## **HOW DO I KNOW WHAT MY COUNTY'S COMMUNITY COVID-19 LEVEL IS?**

**THE CDC COVID-19 COMMUNITY LEVELS WEBPAGE HAS DATA AVAILABLE FOR ALL NYS COUNTIES.**



## **CAN I STILL WEAR A MASK?**

**YES! EVERYONE MAY CHOOSE TO STILL WEAR A MASK. PEOPLE MAY CHOOSE TO CONTINUE TO WEAR A MASK DUE TO BEING IMMUNOCOMPROMISED AND AT HIGHER RISK OF SEVERE COVID-19, BEING UNABLE TO BE VACCINATED, OR CARING FOR SOMEONE ELSE WHO IS HIGH RISK.**



**THE MOST IMPORTANT TO BE RESPECTFUL OF EVERYONE'S PERSONAL CHOICE TO WEAR A FACE-MASK OR NOT**